AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Withdrawn) A method for identifying a library of polypeptides which includes one or more polypeptides that increase gene expression from a promoter, said method comprising the steps:

(a) contacting a library of polypeptides with a mammalian cell that expresses a recombinant anti-cell death gene and that comprises a reporter gene operably linked to a promoter; and

(b) determining whether reporter gene expression from said promoter is increased in said cell as a result of contact with said polypeptide library,

wherein an increase in reporter gene expression identifies said library of polypeptides as a library which includes one or more polypeptides that increase gene expression from said promoter.

2. (Currently Amended) A method for identifying a polypeptide which increases gene expression from a promoter, said method comprising the steps:

(a) contacting a library of polypeptides with a mammalian cell that expresses a recombinant anti-cell death gene and that comprises a reporter gene operably linked to a promoter;

(b) identifying a polypeptide library that increases ~~determining whether~~ reporter gene expression from said promoter ~~is increased in said cell~~ as a result of contact with said polypeptide library;

(c) dividing said library of step (b) into two or more libraries with less complexity; and

(d) repeating steps (a)–(c) until a polypeptide which increases reporter gene expression is identified.

3. (Withdrawn) A method for identifying a library of polypeptides which includes one or more polypeptides that decrease gene expression from a promoter, said method comprising the steps:

(a) contacting a library of polypeptides with a mammalian cell that expresses a recombinant anti-cell death gene and that comprises a reporter gene operably linked to a promoter; and

(b) determining whether reporter gene expression from said promoter is decreased in said cell as a result of contact with said polypeptide library,

wherein a decrease in reporter gene expression identifies said library of polypeptides as a library which includes one or more polypeptides that decrease gene expression from said promoter.

4. (Currently Amended) A method for identifying a polypeptide which decreases gene expression from a promoter, said method comprising the steps:

(a) contacting a library of polypeptides with a mammalian cell that expresses a recombinant anti-cell death gene and that comprises a reporter gene operably linked to a promoter;

(b) identifying a polypeptide library that decreases ~~determining whether~~ reporter gene expression from said promoter ~~is increased in said cell~~ as a result of contact with said polypeptide library;

(c) dividing said library of step (b) into two or more libraries with less complexity; and

(d) repeating steps (a)–(c) until a polypeptide which decreases reporter gene expression is identified.

5-6. (Cancelled)

7. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 1 or 3, wherein said contacting comprises expressing a library of DNA molecules in said ~~a~~ cell, wherein said library of DNA molecules encodes said library of polypeptides.

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 7, wherein said library of DNA molecules is introduced to said cell by transfection.

10. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 9, wherein the mean number of said DNA molecules introduced by transfection into said cell is at least 25.

11. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 9, wherein the mean number of said DNA molecules introduced by transfection into said cell is at least 100.

12. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 9, wherein the mean number of said DNA molecules introduced by transfection into said cell is at least 500.

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 45 or 46, wherein said polypeptide is produced by the same cell that expresses a recombinant anti-cell death gene and that comprises a reporter gene operably linked to said promoter.

15. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 45 or 46, wherein said polypeptide is produced by a cell other than the cell that expresses a recombinant anti-cell death gene and that comprises a reporter gene operably linked to said promoter.

16-18. (Cancelled)

19. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, 2, 3, or 4, wherein said promoter is a heterologous promoter.

20. (Cancelled)

21. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, 2, 3, or 4, wherein said reporter gene is GFP.

22. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, 2, 3, or 4, wherein said anti-cell death gene is selected from the group consisting of bcl family members, IAP family members, and crmA.

23. (Previsously Presented) The method of claim 1, 2, 3, or 4, wherein said cell is selected from the group consisting of CHO, CD-1, Cos, 293, HeLa, BHK, or L cells.

24-44. (Cancelled)

45. (Withdrawn) A method for identifying a polypeptide which increases gene expression from a promoter, said method comprising the steps:

(a) contacting a polypeptide with a mammalian cell that expresses a recombinant anti-cell death gene and that comprises a reporter gene operably linked to said promoter; and

(b) determining whether reporter gene expression from said promoter is increased in said cell as a result of contact with said polypeptide,

wherein an increase in reporter gene expression identifies said polypeptide as a polypeptide which increases gene expression from said promoter.

46. (Withdrawn) A method for identifying a polypeptide which decreases gene expression from a promoter, said method comprising the steps:

(a) contacting a polypeptide with a mammalian cell that expresses a recombinant anti-cell death gene and that comprises a reporter gene operably linked to a promoter; and

(b) determining whether reporter gene expression from said promoter is decreased in said cell as a result of contact with said polypeptide,

wherein a decrease in reporter gene expression identifies said polypeptide as a polypeptide which decreases gene expression from said promoter.

47. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 45 or 46, wherein said reporter gene is GFP.

48. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 45 or 46, wherein said anti-cell death gene is selected from the group consisting of bcl family members, IAP family members, and crmA.

49. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 45 or 46, wherein said cell is selected from the group consisting of CHO, CD-1, Cos, 293, HeLa, BHK, or L cells.